

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE:

- 1 A method and apparatus for a implementing a distributed firewall is described.
- 2 A packet filter processor receives a packet sent from a first device to a second device.
- 3 The packet filter processor authenticates an identifier for the packet. For example,
- 4 authentication could be performed using a cryptographically-verifiable identifier. The
- 5 packet filter processor determines whether to send the packet to the second device,
- 6 based on the authentication and a set of policy rules. The packet filter processor sends
- 7 the packet to the second device in accordance with the determination.